

"Q" TRAIN DEMOLISHES AUTO; THREE INJURED

ESMOND CLEWS TAKE STATE ON NEW TRAILS

STATE'S ATTORNEY AND
SHERIFF LEAVE ON
SECRET ERRAND

SCENT GETTING HOT

OFFICIALS GUARD MOVEMENTS
"FLUSHING" THEIR QUARRY.
EXPEDITION FOLLOWS TIP RE-
CEIVED YESTERDAY.

States Attorney H. F. Kelly moved the scene of his investigation of the Esmond murder from Ottawa today, to follow down clues which he unearthed late yesterday, and which he is veiling in deepest secrecy in an effort to thoroughly trace and shift down without outside interference.

The county prosecutor in company with the sheriff left the city early this morning. Before his departure Mr. Kelly announced that he had been called out of town on matters pertaining to a solution of the murder mystery, which for twelve days has held the undivided attention of county officials.

It is believed unravelling the skein of evidence, is almost at an end, which will ultimately lead to the apprehension of the guilty man who fled leaving the body of his victim lying dead with a bullet hole through his heart at the crest of Dimmick Hill.

The theory which clings, throughout the preliminary investigations is that the murderer fled to La Salle or Oglesby after the shooting, and that inexperience and amateurism led him to drop the gun used in killing Esmond.

"Ralph said he would defend himself if he was ever held up," said a friend of the slain man a few days ago in speaking of the crime. This statement leads to the theory that Esmond either tried to drive off the hold up man when he was given orders to put his hands up without a struggle, and was shot for his brave defense.

Another theory is that he knew and recognized the man who rifled his pockets and was killed by the man who robbed his pockets to avoid detection and punishment for the crime.

County officials today declared that no arrests were made in the affair either last night or today, or that no one had been taken in custody for investigation or questioning.

Late yesterday several persons visited the States Attorney's office, evidently to furnish whatever aid they might render by information they picked up on the affair.

It is believed that today's investigation was made as a result of information obtained at this time.

MER ROUGE EX-MAYOR LOSES FREEDOM FIGHT

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 28.—Dr. B. M. McKoin, former mayor of Mer Rouge La., today lost his fight for immediate release on habeas corpus proceedings. He was remanded "without prejudice" to give the Louisiana authorities opportunity to present their case. Dr. McKoin was arrested here today at the request of Gov. Parker, of Louisiana, who accused him of murder in connection with the Morehouse parish kidnapping last August.

Doctor Has Alibi.
Bastrop, Dec. 28.—A number of citizens of Monroe are coming to the front ready to offer evidence that Dr. McKoin was not in Morehouse parish on the afternoon and night of August 24, when the Mer Rouge men were kidnapped. Messages also are being sent the physician, by persons who state they are willing to testify in his behalf and establish an alibi for him.

Physicians of the fifth congressional district have also expressed a desire to be of assistance financially and otherwise, and have offered to raise \$10,000 to fight the case. Dr. McKoin was president of the fifth congressional district medical association, composed of physicians of fourteen Louisiana parishes, last year.

A telegram declaring Dr. McKoin a leader of the Ku Klux Klan was sent to Governor Ritchie by Governor Parker, of Louisiana.

ROCKFALLS VOTES TO OUST COMMISSION

Sterling, Ill., Dec. 28.—The city of Rockfalls voted yesterday to revert to aldermanic form of government instead of the present commission. Very little interest was taken. Sterling votes on the proposition Jan. 23.

Fat in Human Body.
The average human body contains enough fat to make seven cakes of soap.

FORMER STREATOR GIRL IS BRIDE OF LOCAL YOUNG MAN

MISS BESSIE FINLEN AND OTTO
NEBERGALL PLIGHT TROTHS
WITH BRIDE'S COUSIN PER-
FORMING MARRIAGE RITES.

The marriage of Miss Bessie M. Finlen of this city, a former Streator resident and Otto Nebergall of Ottawa, was solemnized at a nuptial high mass at St. Mary's church in Joliet at 8:30 o'clock yesterday morning. Rev. J. S. Woods of Washington, D. C., a cousin of the bride officiated.

The bridal party entered the church to the strains of Lohengrin's wedding march, which was played by Miss Bessie Lennon. During the mass solos were sung by Miss Genevieve Lennon and Mrs. Mary Paula Finlen. The bride wore a gown of Moscow crepe with a hat and shoes of the same shade. She wore a corsage bouquet of sweet peas, sweet heart roses and carried a mother of pearl prayer book. The matron of honor wore a gown of brown Russian crepe and a corsage similar to the one worn by the bride.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Lennon in Joliet, with whom the bride has made her home since the death of her parents. A three course wedding breakfast was served after the reception. Covers were laid for twenty members of the immediate families. The house and table decorations were in the holiday colors.

Mrs. Nebergall is the youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Finlen Sr., of Streator. She was a graduate of St. Mary's academy. The bride is very popular both in Ottawa and Streator. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Nebergall of Ottawa. He holds a responsible position with the National Plate. Mr. and Mrs. Nebergall left Joliet at 8:40 yesterday for a trip through Detroit, Canada and the east. They will be at home in Ottawa after Jan. 15, in a completely furnished bungalow which has already been prepared for their occupancy.

A will drawn twenty-one years ago disposed of the estate of the late Heinrich Kohl of Mendota, who died Dec. 18, of this year. The will was witnessed by Supervisor John Goettner and Fred F. Bieser.

The document, with a petition asking that it be probated, was filed in the local courts today. The petition listed the testator's holdings as a home worth \$1,500 and personal property worth \$600.

All of the decedent's property goes to his widow, Mrs. Margaret Kohl, who is named as executrix.

Dismiss Insanity Petition.
Judge B. Harry Rock, in the county court yesterday, dismissed the petition filed by Adam Michalski, first street, La Salle, asking that his wife, Eunice, be given a sanity hearing. Mrs. Michalski was before her marriage a resident of Ottawa.

The petition was dismissed for want of prosecution. Mrs. Michalski was brought into court early in the fall upon complaint of her husband, who alleged that she was mentally unbalanced. The petitioner was extremely abusive to the defendant in court.

A continuance was granted to the defendant to give an opportunity to prepare a defense. People who conversed with her in court did not believe her to be unbalanced, but thought she was the victim of ill treated abuse.

At the time the case was scheduled for hearing, neither Michalski nor his wife appeared in court.

Taken to Guardian Angel Home.
Adam Grunwald, aged 12, and his three younger brothers and sister, Anna, aged 10; Joseph, aged 6, and Frank, aged 3, of Streator, were taken to the Guardian Angel home in Peoria, on an order from the county court today. The mother of the children is dead, and their father, John Grunwald, is alleged to have deserted them.

They were left with their paternal grandfather, Valentine Grunwald, in Streator. A petition was filed by the Streator probation officer at the request of the grandfather that they be declared dependent, as he was too aged to properly care for them.

They were given a hearing in the county court, following which they were temporarily sent to the detention home until other arrangements could be made for caring for them.

They were taken to Peoria by Miss Laura Aussem, the probation officer today.

FLU DISCOVERED AMONG ILL. SWINE

Sterling, Ill., Dec. 28.—Flu epidemic among hogs in the northern part of this county is getting a strong hold. One farmer lost thirty and another twenty-seven hogs. One farmer lost seven head of valuable cattle. State authorities have been notified of the plague.

THE GREAT BALANCING ACT



21 YEAR OLD WILL PRESENTED COURT TODAY FOR PROBATE

DOCUMENT DISCOVERED FOLLOW-
ING DEATH OF HEINRICH KOHL
—MENDOTA MAN DISPOSES OF
ESTATE TO WIDOW.

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1 FIREMAN KILLED, 18 HURT AT LOUISVILLE

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 2.—One fireman was killed and eighteen others injured following a four hour fight last night with a fire which gutted a four story building in the heart of the business district. Loss was estimated at \$200,000.

FOUR BREAK THRU CANAL ICE; RESCUER TAKES COLD PLUNGE

The warm weather of the last few days has placed the ice of the Illinois-Michigan canal in such a weakened condition that three boys, all brothers, went through the honeycombed surface about 2:25 this afternoon, and narrowly escaped drowning. Mrs. Sylvester Bute, who tried to save the trio who were William, Howard and Georgia Clark, also went thru the ice into the chilled water.

The youngsters were skating with a party of about fifteen school children.

According to Mrs. Frank Myers, Mrs. Bute heard the cries of the children and rushed to the banks of the waterway to aid the youngsters while others stood there without offering a hand. All of the bystanders had done nothing but gape in fright until Mrs. Bute arrived. Single handed she rushed to the rescue of the three children.

She ventured out on the weak ice and grabbed the small Clark boy Georgia and started to draw him from the cold water when there was another crash and the heroic woman plunged into icy water with the three children.

All Rescued By City Dads.
Excited people rushed up and down the bank not knowing what to do. Then suddenly the "Blue Devil" man, owned by the city, was seen. He was accompanied by several firemen and soon pulled the four unfortunates from the water.

Georgia Clark and Mrs. Bute, who were in a serious condition, were placed in an ambulance and rushed to the City Hospital. At the hospital it was reported that they were suffering from cold and exposure. The other two, Howard and William, were taken to the Byers home for attention, but they will recover. At press time it was reported the entire quartette will be none the worse from their icy plunges.

This morning about 10 o'clock, two youngsters, Mike Engel and another, whose names could not be learned, went through the ice and were saved by skaters.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HAS RECORD YEAR; ANSWERS 168 CALLS

THREE ALARMS IN PAST TWEN-
TY-FOUR HOURS BOOST TOTAL
ABOVE 1921 MARK — SPARKS
IGNITE ROOFS.

Three more calls last night and this morning sent the total of fires during the past year to 168, a new record for the Ottawa department. Last year, while the fire loss was heavier, the number of calls for the entire year only amounted to 147. It is expected that the total with several days to go will be raised to 175.

Even with the increased number of fires during the past year and a decrease in loss, the department looks to next year with a certainty of another big decrease in fire loss due to the new equipment that will make them more efficient and able to handle the fires more quickly.

The year, which is now drawing to a close, has been fortunate in having no big fires and even if there is a big, threatening conflagration next year with additional hose and the new powerful pumping outfit and hook and ladder rig the department is expected to be able to handle it and cut the hazard.

The first call that started boosting the total was received at 7:30 last night when the firemen were called to the Walter K. Lincoln home on Greene street in Eastwood. Sparks from the chimney frightened passersby with the result that the new hook and ladder outfit was called upon to make its first run into East Ottawa across the Fox river bridge.

A few hours later at 11:40 the department was again called across the temporary bridge to extinguish a small roof fire caused by sparks from the chimney at the Mrs. May and Miss Green home, 609 East Main St. The damage was nominal.

At 7:30 this morning the department made its third run when it was called to the Mrs. Catherine Tully residence, 1219 Post street. Sparks from the chimney ignited the roof and caused a damage of about \$10.

The new American La France truck which is scheduled to arrive today has not been heard from. It was expected to get here this morning but the bill of lading has not yet arrived. Fire Chief Bossenlin stated that he felt sure the new truck would be here before New Year's Day and that it would be rarin' to go when the bells ring out old 1922 and in 1923.

STANDARD OIL CUTS ANOTHER BIG MELON

Chicago, Dec. 28.—A stock dividend of 100 per cent was declared today by the Standard Oil Co., of Indiana.

ONE IN HOSPITAL SERIOUSLY HURT; HIT AT CROSSING

Dragged about 150 feet when the auto in which they were riding was struck by a C., B. & Q. passenger train three Ottawa men were badly injured, one so seriously that he may not recover, at 11:20 today.

C. OF C. STARTS ITS CAMPAIGN FOR A STATE POLICE FORCE

COMMITTEE HOLDS FIRST MEET-
ING TO ARRANGE PLANS FOR
GETTING LEGISLATION FAVOR-
ABLE TO THEIR PROJECT.

The special committee of the Chamber of Commerce appointed to work for adoption of the state police bill held its first meeting yesterday afternoon to outline a plan of operation.

The committee is headed by R. C. Jordan, the other fifteen members are: L. M. Bayne, J. B. Bassett, H. Ward Conde, W. D. Duncan, Oscar Haeblerle, L. M. Harvey, Lester Matheiser, C. C. McEvoy, T. J. O'Meara, William Mulholland, Jason F. Richardson Jr., Al F. Schoch, Frank Sanders, Henry A. Schmidt and Charles P. Taylor.

During the past year, the Illinois chamber has urged the creation of a state police force, which has been made necessary by the construction of thousands of miles of improved highways and by high power motor transportation which enables thugs and highwaymen from the cities to prey upon suburban and rural residents and industries. They have had the unqualified co-operation of the Illinois bankers, numerous farm bureaus and civic organizations, who have joined forces to advocate the establishment of a state police during the forthcoming session of the general assembly.

The local committee believes it important to acquaint the public with the purpose of rural police and secure their support of the movement, and working to this end, every effort will be made to furnish literature to those desiring it and meetings will be held throughout the county for the purpose of molding public opinion in favor of this proposed legislation.

The recent murder that was committed in this locality should be sufficient evidence that greater protection should be given the people who live in the rural districts and travel the country highways. It has been the experience of other nations and states that as their transportation systems, including hard roads, are improved, more exacting regulations and precautions have to be taken to provide protection. Illinois ranks third in the United States for the number of her citizens and is badly in need of a state police force; New York and Pennsylvania, the two most densely populated states, have had such a system in operation for several years.

On Hunting Expedition.
The accident occurred as the three men were starting out on a hunting trip to blast what promised to be an unusually pleasant outing. Their heavy outing attire in all likelihood saved them from more terrible injuries than they received.

Blood covered and presenting a contrasting appearance to the out of door attire it had a few minutes before the hunting dogs were pulled off the victims when they were removed to Ryburn hospital, disclosing a great many bad body lacerations.

No Crossing Flagman.
Th machine was headed west. There is no crossing flagman at Marquette street, a "wig wag" signal and bell, being used for traffic there. It is supposed that the occupants of the car did not see or hear the signal. The car is said to have been traveling at a fast enough speed to carry it up the slight grade incline to the crossing.

The flagman on the train stated that he did not see the car until it was just ready to come on the track. He then called to Engineer Miller, who was in his booth on the right hand side of the engine, but the latter was unable to bring the locomotive to a stop, and was powerless to prevent the crash, as the engine was only a few feet away from the auto.

Occupants of the car are said to have not seen the train until it was ten feet from them. The crash occurred an instant later, the force of the blow landing just in the middle of the auto.

On Unconscious.
Theodore Myers, who was riding in the front seat with Mr. Calhoun, was the first man struck and was more badly injured of the trio. He was internally injured, was badly lacerated about the body and was rendered unconscious. He suffered a bad concussion of the head.

The other two were both badly cut and hurt about the head and body. The car is said to have been carried in front of the engine and the three injured men dragged along, from the street crossing, until the Illinois-Michigan canal bridge, almost a half block distant, was reached. There the car is said to have broken in two, and the injured men been thrown to the ground. The train passed on over the bridge before the engine could be brought to a stop.

Engineer Gives Alarm.
After the crash and the train was brought to a stop, Engineer Miller rushed to the Frank Byers' home on the south side of the canal and just next to the tracks and called headquarters at the Q station, on Walnut street informing them of the crash. The office informed the police department and the ambulance was rushed to the scene, accompanied by officer Holmes and Street Superintendent Patrick J. Costello. After the ambulance had been called, doctors were summoned to the hospital. A yellow cab waiting for the train was driven at breakneck speed, being the first machine to arrive on the scene.

Passengers with the aid of the train crew, picked up the injured men and attempted to render first aid. Jerome (Continued on Page Three.)

PIKE ORDERS SCHOOL ROOMS DISINFECTED

A precaution to avoid the spreading of scarlet fever which has been prevalent in the city for some weeks was begun this morning under the supervision of Dr. W. A. Pike, health commissioner, who ordered the janitors of all schools to thoroughly disinfect the public institutions so that everything will be in first class condition when the pupils start back to school after New Year's. Just a few remaining cases of contagion have been reported around town, but Dr. Pike stated that care should be taken so the disease will not spread. All cases should be reported at once to the health commissioner.

ROCK ISLAND CREWS BLAMED FOR WRECKS

Peoria, Ill., Dec. 28.—Violation of a rule of the railroad by the conductor, brakeman and porter of one train is held responsible for the near disaster when two Rock Island passenger trains came together in a head on collision at Mossville near here last Saturday. On two slight injury claims resulted.

Officials investigation of the wreck at Chicago resulted in dismissal of the conductor, brakeman and porter, according to V. H. Heeseler, trainmaster of the Rock Island. Peoria. The men belonged to the crew of No. 208 Chicago bound, the other train being No. 207.